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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

Remind us, O God, of the privilege of public service, a calling to represent people with wisdom and diligence and perseverance. May not the difficulties of any time cause us to lose the vision of those goals that unite us as one people, of those ideals that express our expectations and our yearning for justice. Give each person, gracious God, the strength of character and the integrity of the heart, that will enable us to be the people You would have us be. Bless us this day and every day, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. GUTIERREZ] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GUTIERREZ led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair wishes to announce that there will be 20 1-minutes on each side.

REPUBLICAN CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, for too long, this institution has lost faith because we have been unable to restore the integrity of this institution. But we are here now to restore the—

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman suspend. The Chair notes a disturbance in the Visitors Gallery in contravention of the law and the rules of the House.

The doormen and police will remove from the gallery those persons participating in the disturbance.

The Chair will re-recognize for his full time the gentleman from Kansas.

Mr. TIAHRT. I thank the Speaker. I did not realize I would have such an impact on the audience today.

The SPEAKER. The Chair commends the gentleman from Kansas who can arouse such spirit of interest but recommends he start over.

Mr. TIAHRT. I thank the Speaker.

Mr. TIAHRT. For too long, Mr. Speaker, America has lost faith in this institution, because we were unable to focus on the integrity that is required on the floor of the House. We are here to restore faith in this institution, in America. Our Contract With America on the very first day of Congress changed the way business was done. We required Congress to live under the same laws as everyone else. We cut committee staffs by one-third. We cut the congressional budget.

Then during the first 100 days we have gone on to keep our promises: a balanced budget amendment; unfunded mandate legislation; line-item veto; a new crime package to stop violent criminals; National Security Restoration Act to protect our freedoms; Gov-

ernment regulatory reform, and commonsense legal reform.

We are now working on welfare reform so that we can encourage work, restore hope in people and not dependence on the Government. We are working on it now. We hope to have it passed by this week. We are cracking down on deadbeat dads.

In the near future we are going to be dealing with tax cuts for middle-American families.

There is going to be a Senior Citizens Equity Act, congressional term limits, all are going to be dealt with.

We are here to restore faith in this institution for the American public.

This is our Contract With America, Mr. Speaker.

TERM LIMITS

(Mr. GUTIERREZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, today I want to send a special message to the people of the Sixth District in Georgia. I want to inform you that your Congressman, Mr. GINGRICH—whom you first elected in 1978—supports limiting members to 12 years of service.

In a press conference endorsing the 12-year limit, the Speaker, now in his 17th year, said: "The balance of power in favor of professional politicians as incumbents * * * has made a mockery of the process of open elections."

So, that must mean that each election held in Georgia's Sixth District since 1990, when Mr. GINGRICH's 12 years were up, has been a mockery.

If I lived in Georgia, I'd be concerned to hear that I had voted in a "mockery" of an election. In fact, three of them, since 1990.

But, there is a remedy. No, not a special election, and, no, we don't have to ask President Carter to monitor the elections, even though he lives right

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

